

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1255052-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 1
Page 40 ~ Duplicate;

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X Deleted Page(s) X
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X For this Page X
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON D. C.

June 23, 1952

To: SAC, Omaha

There follows the report of the FBI Laboratory on the examination of evidence received from your office on June 17, 1952.

Re: UNSUB.;
GEN. CURTIS LE MAY - VICTIM
EXTORTION

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

RECORDED - 21

YOUR FILE NO.

FBI FILE NO.

LAB. NO.

9-22432-1

D-150335 EQ

Examination requested by: Omaha

Reference: Letter 6-13-52 EX. 3

Examination requested: Document

Specimens:

- Q1 Envelope bearing handwritten address "Gen. Curtis LeMay c/o Pentagon Wash 25, D. C.," postmarked "KANSAS CITY, MO. JUN 9, 1952 6:30 PM."
- Q2 Accompanying first page of letter beginning "Dear Sir: Ordinarily I'm a...." and ending on reverse side "...Do the things necessary."
- Q3 Accompanying second page of letter beginning "I Prefer that...." and ending "...Do you Understand?"

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION:

The submitted extortion letter was compared with material in the Anonymous Letter File without effecting an identification. A copy has been added.

In the examination of the paper no watermark or any other information was found which would assist in tracing the paper to its source.

Evidence attached together with photographs. Photographs transmitted to Kansas City.

Enclosure - REGISTERED MAIL

9-22432-1

1 - Kansas City Inclosure

64 JUN 26 1952

MAILED 8
JUN 23 1952

7-2

SS
6/70

Best available copy

NO 2 FILE

File # 9-22432-11
Lab. # D-150335

b6
b7C

Date received: 6/17/52

Examination by:

1.3057

2

Result of Examination:
300M or other marks on paper
in a sheet A. L. F. III E. & IV - No. Ident 6-20-52
Copy to be attached
Send photo to the Armaham & Kansas City

Specimens submitted for examination

- 1 Mr. Hearing in add. "Gen. Curtis LeMay ~~701/274444/411/444444~~
 2 c/o Porterson Wash 25, D.C.", p. "RAND'S GEM, NO. 377, 1952
 3 1952".
 4 acc. first page of let. bcc. "Dear Sir: Ordinarily I'm a...."
 5 and ending on reverse side ".....to the things necessary."
 6 acc. second page of let. bcc. "I Prefer that...." and ending "....
 7understand?"

cc Kansas City

9-22432-1

Best available copy

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (AIRMAIL - REGISTERED)
FROM : SAC, Omaha (44-111) *gjd*
SUBJECT: *WFOGAF* SUBJECT
Gen. CURTIS LE MAY - VICTIM
EXTORTION

DATE: June 13, 1952

150335

Remytel June 13, 1952 in this case.

6-18-52
CSI, Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha today furnished original extortion letter and envelope to Omaha. The envelope is addressed to Gen. CURTIS LE MAY, care Pentagon, Wash. 25, D. C. It was sent Air Mail and was postmarked at Kansas City, Missouri at 6:30 P.M. on June 9, 1952. It also carried a postmark cancellation of June 9, 1952 at 4:30 P.M. from Kansas City, Missouri. In the latter cancellation is the number "9". The envelope bore the following printing on its face, "Return in five days to City National Bank and Trust Company, Kansas City 10, Missouri". The only information on the back of the envelope is an incoming block stamp of June 10, 1952 by the Secretary of Air Staff Correspondence, Control Branch, and the postmark of Washington, D. C. at 9:30 P.M. on June 11, 1952. The front of the envelope reflects that it was forwarded from the Pentagon to the Headquarters of the Strategic Air Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, Nebraska.

The extortion letter is on plain yellow paper and consists of two separate pages. The extortion letter is as follows:

"Dear Sir; -

"Ordinarily I'm a kindly likeable guy. - I don't get mad or anything else.

"Now - I'll tell you: During your service during World War II you and those stupid Washington jackasses (ordinarily I'm still a likeable guy.) bombed Nagasaki and Hiro.

"Now - It's usually not in me to chew a fellow out - but I know from experience that if one tries to fight for long he will go fightingly insane. And I'm not kidding - Hate can burn a man up.

"There is a way I can cause a man to die - That's by pulling the inside of his hair root out. He becomes like a tree then because his hair rots and his limbs get rotted - in short because he has sinned he dies - as in the case of Roosevelt, Stimson, Arnold and others. The Commandment is 'Thy Shalt Not Kill' when it comes to 'Prosecuting' (attacking is your word) I'll do the thing necessary. I prefer that man shall live and if possible freely.

RECORDED - 117

SE 39

140

13

JUN 14 1952

CC: Kansas City

WFO:djh

Best available copy

ON 9-15-68

"At this end I give him dreams at night - which are all that keep a man sane. It would be best that you make a list of the killings and people you've helped to kill - else I'll take your life very quickly from you."

"Do you understand?"

The reverse side of Page 2 bears some undecipherable markings.

The above letter and envelope are written by hand in ink.

It is advised that General LE MAY has displayed considerable interest in the results of this investigation. OSI requested that their office be furnished copies of the reports in this case for transmittal to General LE MAY. 100 copies of reports will be furnished to OSI at Offutt Air Force Base.

The FBI Laboratory is requested to search the extortion letter through the Anonymous Letter File in an effort to identify the subject of this case. The FBI Laboratory is requested to conduct such other investigation as is deemed feasible. The FBI Laboratory is further requested to furnish photographic copies of the extortion letter and envelope to Kansas City and Omaha by Air Mail. Copies of the Laboratory report should be furnished to Kansas City and Omaha when the examination is completed. It is requested that the extortion letter and envelope be returned to Omaha. The extortion letter and envelope are enclosed to the Bureau herewith.

Colonel CHARLES P. MARTIN of OSI, Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha states there are no suspects known to General LE MAY.

Kansas City is requested to immediately contact the City National Bank and Trust Company, Kansas City, Missouri in an effort to develop possible subjects in this case. It is noted that the envelope bore a return address of the above company and bore the printed seal of that company. From the data set forth above, Kansas City will locate the whereabouts of Unit No. 9 in the Kansas City, Missouri Postal system. It is noted that this number was on the postmark on instant envelope.

Omaha will interview the victim in this case and will advise the Bureau and Kansas City of any developments.

9-224-3-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

7-2

Laboratory Work Sheet

RECORDED
6/18/52 jar

NO LAB FILE

Re: UNSUB.;
GEN. CURTIS LE MAY -VICTIM
EXTORTION

File # 9-22432-1 ✓
Lab. # D-150335 EQ

b6
b7C

Examination requested by: SAC, Omaha

Date of reference communication: let. 6/13/52

Date received: 6/17/52

Examination requested: Document

Result of Examination:

Examination by: 

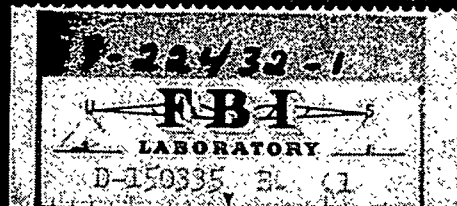
*Q1 - Q3
1. To ... of 6-23-52*

Specimens submitted for examination

- Q1 Env. bearing hw add. "Gen. Curtis LeMay ~~146/146/146/146/146/146~~
ø c/o Pentagon Wash 25, D. C.", pm. "KANSAS CITY, MO. JUN 9, 1952
6:30 PM."
- Q2 Acc. first page of let beg. "Dear Sir: Ordinarily I'm a...."
and ending on reverse side "....Do the things necessary."
- Q3 Acc. second page of let beg. "I Prefer that...." and ending "....
Do you Understand?"

1 ENCL

9-22432-1



Dear Sir: — Ordinarily I'm a
kindly ^{and} likeable

Guy. — I Don't Get Mad at
anything Else.

Now — to Tell You:

During Your "Service" During
World War II you and those
Stupid Washington Jackasses
(Ordinarily I'm Still a Likeable
Guy.) Bombed Nagasaki and
Hiro.

Now — It's Usually Not In
Me
To
Blame

9-22432-1

draw a man up.

There is a way I can cause
a man to die — That is
By Pulling the Inside of
His Hair 'Root' Out. He
Becomes Like a

Tree then Because His Hair
Falls and His Limbs Get
Fattier — In Shortly Because
He has Sinned He Dies —

As in the Case of Forecath
Stinson - Arnold - and others
The Commandment is "They Shall
Not Kill" When it comes to
"The ..."

I Prefer That Man Shall Live
And Of Passions Truly.

To This End I Give Him
Dreams At Night — Which

Are all That Fear A Man
Loves.

Yet Would Be Best That
You Make Up For
The Killings And Deaths

You've Helped To Make

— And I'll Take Your
Life Very Graciously From
You

Do You Understand?

111 (5) ② ②

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: June 17, 1952

FROM : SAC, OMAHA (9-533)

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT
General CURTIS LE MAY - VICTIM
EXTORTIONA M S D

Remytel June 13, 1952, in this case.

General CURTIS LE MAY, Strategic Air Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, has been interviewed in this case. He stated that he has received various crank letters in the past but that none of the previous letters have contained a threat on his life. He and his staff were apprised of the Bureau's desires regarding the minimum handling of any extortion letters that he might receive in the future at his office or home.

The only suspect that General LE MAY could suggest was an individual who telephoned him on February 27, 1951 and impersonated Lieutenant General GEORGE A. PAINTER. At that time General LEMAY was in Spokane, Washington, and the caller was in Topeka, Kansas. The General could not recall the name of the caller; however, a review of the files of the OSI, Omaha, reflected that the caller was RUSSELL K. BROOKS, 1011 West 1st Street, Topeka, Kansas. The Kansas City file on BROOKS is 47-3080. BROOKS was described as a thirty-seven year old ex-service man. In 1951 he admitted telephoning General LE MAY and also admitted unsuccessfully attempting to reach the General on a previous occasion. In 1951 prosecution was declined on BROOKS for impersonation.

Kansas City, at Topeka, Kansas, is requested to interview BROOKS to determine if he wrote instant extortion letter. Handwriting specimens should be obtained from BROOKS and furnished to the FBI Laboratory for comparison with the extortion letter.

The above is being furnished the Bureau for information purposes.

TWC/bco

2 ccs: Kansas City

RECORDED
INDEXED - 24
- B SE 189-2-15
9622432-2b6
b7c

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

JUNE 16, 1952

DEFERRED

Transmit the following message to:

SAC, KANSAS CITY

RECORDED - 59-22432-3
UNKNOWN SUBJECT, GEN. CURTIS LE MAY, VICTIM, EXTORTION. ON
RECEIPT OF ALL DETAILS FROM OMAHA DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF
PROSECUTION WITH APPROPRIATE USA.

HOOVER

EHH:IMC

25 JUN 18 1952

U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED READING ROOM

JUN 16 6 35 PM '52

338 JUL 13 1952

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 17 1952

TELETYPE

60 JUL 7 1952

SENT VIA

9-22432-3

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Belmont _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Laughlin _____
 Mr. Mohr _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Mr. Holloman _____
 Miss Gandy _____

FBIOMAHA 6-13-52 7-05 PM DCL

DIRECTOR URGENT

UNKNOWN SUBJECT, GEN. CURTIS LE MAY VICTIM EXT. ANONYMOUS LETTER POST-
 MARKED JUNE NINE, LAST AT KANSAS CITY, MO. WAS SENT TO GEN. CORPUS L
 MAY CARE OF PENTAGON, WASH., D. C. LETTER WAS ~~RECEIVED~~ FORWARDED FROM
 PENTAGON TO STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND, OFFUTT AIR FORCE BASE, OMAHA. LETTER
 CRITICIZES VICTIM FOR BOMBING NAGASAKI AND HIROSHIMA, AND FOR HELPING
 TO MURDER PEOPLE. IT STATES THAT UNLESS VICTIM MAKES UP FOR THE
 KILLINGS QUOTE I-LL TAKE YOUR LIFE VERY QUICKLY FROM YOU UNQUOTE.
 NO SUSPECTS DEVELOPED. ORIGINAL LETTER AND ENVELOPE BEING FURNISHED
 BUREAU AMSD. KC BEING ADVISED BY MAIL.

[Redacted Box]

CC TO KC

CORR LAST LINE SEC LAST WD IS AMSD

END AND ACK PLS

9-09 PM OK FBI WA NRB

DIS

VV

RECORDED - 56 9-22432

K.C. EX - 47 JUN 18 1952

Handwritten: 6/16/52

9-22432-3

[Redacted Box]

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Best available copy

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

KANSAS CITY

FILE NO.

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REPORT MADE AT PHOENIX	DATE WHEN MADE 6/28/52	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/19, 20, 21, 23, 24/52	REPORT MADE BY jld
TITLE UNKNOWN SUBJECT; GENERAL CURTIS LE MAY - VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE EXTORTION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Investigation Phoenix reflects suspect BROOKS moved from 4319 East Wilshire in December, 1951. Suspect moved from last known Phoenix address at Route 1, Box 64, on February 20, 1952, to General Delivery, Denver, Colorado. Suspect mailed check payment to Sears Roebuck Company from San Antonio Texas, April 9, 1952. No criminal record, Phoenix.

RUC

DETAILS:

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

By suitable pretext the following information was ascertained relative to suspect RUSSELL K. BROOKS:

Neighbors of 4319 East Wilshire advised that suspect formerly resided at the above address from approximately November 1, 1951, to December 15, 1951, and then moved back east, possibly to Topeka, Kansas.

The records of the Allied Building Credits, Inc., 19 West Jefferson, Phoenix, Arizona, reflect that one WILLIAM D. BROOKS and MARIE F. BROOKS previously resided at the above address. They had attempted to secure an FHA loan, which was denied. WILLIAM D. BROOKS is believed to be suspect RUSSELL K. BROOKS' brother and MARIE F. BROOKS is believed to be suspect's mother.

The records of the Federal Housing Authority, Phoenix, reflect that WILLIAM D. BROOKS previously resided at 1603 West 6th Street, Topeka, Kansas.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>G.B. Morris</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPY IN FILE COPIES OF THIS REPORT 2 - Bureau 3 - Kansas City 3 - Phoenix (9-162)		1 - 92-435-4 JUL 2 1952	INDEXED - 132 RECORDED - 132 9-22-52-45-132

PX 9-162

[redacted] of the Allied Building Credits, and the neighbors of the East Wilshire address, advised that suspect also resided at this address during the above stated time.

The records of the U. S. Post Office, Phoenix, reflect the following changes of address of suspect:

10-20-51	1913 East Villa, Phoenix
11-1-51	4329 East Wilshire, Phoenix
12-15-51	General Delivery, Phoenix
1-3-52	602 South 17th Avenue, Phoenix
1-15-52	7002 Overlook Drive, Dallas, Texas
1-16-52	Route 1, Box 64, Phoenix, Arizona
2-20-52	General Delivery, Denver, Colorado

Neighbors at the following addresses could furnish no further information as to the present location of suspect: 1913 East Villa, 602 South 17th Avenue.

[redacted] advised that suspect left the General Delivery, Denver, Colorado, forwarding address with her.

There is no record of suspect having any vehicle registered to him with the Arizona Department of Motor Vehicles.

A check at the Credit Bureau of Phoenix reflected that suspect was divorced from [redacted] in January, 1946, and is presently married to [redacted]. His occupation was listed as a self-employed painter. He had received credit at Diamonds Department Store and Sarwak Motor Sales.

The records of the Credit Department at Diamonds Department Store reflected that suspect listed 1011 West 1st Street, Topeka, Kansas, as a previous address.

The Sarwak Motor Sales could offer no further information as to suspect's present whereabouts.

The records of Sears Roebuck, Inc. reflect that suspect was employed by [redacted] as a painter and was formerly employed by [redacted] in Topeka, Kansas. On April 9, 1952, they received a payment from suspect BROOKS with a return address of 425½ North Main, care of Lamar Hotel, San Antonio, Texas.

PX 9-162

[redacted] was contacted and advised that he did not know of the whereabouts of suspect.

The Valley National Bank, Phoenix, advised that they presently have an open commercial account in a very small amount in the name of [redacted] suspect's wife.

Local Painters Union No. 80, Phoenix, advised that suspect was a member of their Union from October 15, 1951, to January 16, 1952, and was formerly a member of Local Painters Union No. 96, Topeka, Kansas, card 66566, Social Security No. 491-05-1658.

The records of the Public Utilities Companies in Phoenix were negative as to the present whereabouts of suspect.

The records of the Phoenix Police Department and the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office were negative as to suspect.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

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PX 9-162

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

REFERENCE: Kansas City teletype to Phoenix June 19, 1952.
Phoenix teletype to Kansas City June 20, 1952.
Phoenix teletype to Kansas City June 21, 1952.
Phoenix teletype to Kansas City June 23, 1952.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 19 1952

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Laughlin
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

FBI KANSAS CITY 6-19-52 1-39PM BB

DIRECTOR FBI AND SAC OMAHA U R G E N T

UNKNOWN SUBJECT, GENERAL CURTIS LE MAY, VICTIM, EXTORTION. REBUTEL
JUNE SEVENTEEN LAST. AUSA [] KCMO, DECLINES PROSECUTION IN
INSTANT CASE, IS OF OPINION PROSECUTION, IF ANY, ~~SHOULD~~ SHOULD BE HELD
IN DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA AS PROBABLE AND POTENTIAL WITNESSES RESIDE
THAT DISTRICT. AUSA [] ALSO OF OPINION THAT LETTER WAS WRITTEN
BY PERSON WHO IS MENTALLY ILL, STATES THAT ALTHOUGH LETTER CONTAINS
A THREAT OF DEATH, THE STATED METHOD OF CAUSING THE DEATH WOULD BE
IMPOSSIBLE. OMAHA DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF PROSECUTION WITH APPROPRIATE
USA. ADVISE.

BOARDMAN

OM HAS BEEN ADV

END AND ACK PLS

3-43 PM OK FBI WA MLT

V

RECORDED

19-2245-2
JUN 26 1952

61 JUL 9 1952

Best available copy

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (4-22422)

DATE: July 3, 1952

FROM : SAC, Omaha (9-533)

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
General CURTIS LE MAY - VICTIM
EXTORTION

Re Kansas City teletype dated June 19, 1952 advising the Bureau and Omaha Assistant U. S. Attorney in Kansas City, Missouri declined prosecution in this case and that he was of the opinion that prosecution, if any, should be held in the district of Nebraska as probable and potential witnesses reside in the latter district.

By teletype dated June 24, 1952 Kansas City requested Omaha to advise the decision of J. S. Attorney Omaha regarding prosecution in this case.

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Assistant U. S. Attorney [redacted] Omaha, advised that in his opinion instant extortion letter constitutes a violation of 18 USC 876. He was apprised of the entire opinion rendered by the Assistant U. S. Attorney in Kansas City, Missouri. [redacted] believed that the individual who wrote the extortion letter probably was mentally unbalanced. He advised, however, that unless there are additional letters, he does not desire to authorize prosecution in this matter, particularly in view of 18 USC 3239 which provides that the defendant in an extortion case may, upon motion, as a matter of right, have the case tried in the district where the communication was set in motion. In view of the latter section, he was of the opinion that the authorization, if any, should come from the district where the communication was set in motion. He therefore suggested that his opinion be brought to the attention of the Assistant U. S. Attorney in Kansas City, Missouri inasmuch as any trial in this case would probably be held in Kansas City, Missouri.

Kansas City is requested to discuss the above matter with the Assistant U. S. Attorney in Kansas City, Missouri and advise the Bureau and Omaha.

It is to be noted that the victim in this case is a nationally known individual. Even though the Assistant U. S. Attorney in Kansas City, Missouri should again decline prosecution, Kansas City is requested to conduct a thorough investigation in this case and to furnish an extra copy of the report to Omaha in order that it can be transmitted to OSI at Omaha. All logical suspects that may be developed should be interviewed, even though prosecution is declined. This request is being made due to the fact that OSI in Omaha and the headquarters of the Strategic Air Command at Omaha are both vitally interested in this investigation.

2 cc - Kansas City

RECORDED-1

9-22422-6

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (9-22432)

DATE: 7/24/52

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (9-1100)

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT; GENERAL CURTIS LE MAY - VICTIM
EXTORTION

Reference is made to Omaha letter dated 7/3/52 directed to the Bureau with copies to the Kansas City Office. This to advise that investigation by the Kansas City Office to date has failed to disclose logical suspects in connection with instant case.

In accordance with referenced Omaha letter to the Bureau dated 7/3/52, the facts of instant case were again discussed by SA MARVIN L. SHAY of the Kansas City Office with Assistant United States Attorney [redacted] of Kansas City, Missouri, on 7/14/52. At that time Assistant United States Attorney [redacted] advised that he concurred with the opinion of Assistant United States Attorney [redacted] of Omaha in that the defendant in an extortion case may, upon motion, as a matter of right, have his case tried in the district where the communication was set in motion. [redacted] further advised that he is still definitely of the opinion that the individual who wrote the extortion letter to General LE MAY was mentally unbalanced. He further advised that unless there are additional letters he does not desire to authorize prosecution in this matter.

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Instant extortion letter, together with the envelop in which it was mailed, which is an official business envelop of the City National Bank & Trust Company of Kansas City, Missouri, were exhibited to [redacted] of the City National Bank & Trust Company of Kansas City, Missouri. [redacted] advised after examination of the envelop that the envelop is definitely an official business envelop used daily by the City National Bank & Trust Company. He related however that the envelop containing the extortion letter is of a small size and is seldom if ever used by the bank in business communications. [redacted] further informed that it is comparatively easy for anyone walking through the lobby of the bank to obtain an official envelop of the bank together with writing paper from any of the bank officials whose desks are located near the lobby.

cc: 1 - Omaha (9-533)

MLS:MA

RECORDED - 67

INDEXED - 67

19-22432-1

9-22432-7

275
1052

KC (9-1100)

Director, FBI

7/24/52

[] advised that he is very familiar with the handwriting of the majority of the persons employed in the bank and in the large parking garage adjacent to the bank, and he was unable to recognize the writing on the extortion letter as being comparable to that of any employee of the bank.

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Efforts by the Kansas City Office to locate Suspect RUSSELL K. BROOKS, 1011 West First Street, Topeka, Kansas, have met with negative results to date. Investigation at Topeka, Kansas indicated that Suspect BROOKS moved from Topeka, Kansas to Phoenix, Arizona during the middle part of 1951.

Further investigation by the Phoenix Office has failed to locate Suspect BROOKS to date.

Unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau, the Kansas City Office will continue investigation in instant case in accordance with the request of the Omaha office as contained in referenced letter to the Bureau dated 7/3/52.

SAC, Omaha (9-533)

September 8, 1952

Director, FBI (9-22432)

UNKNOWN SUBJECT
GENERAL CURTIS LE MAY
VICTIM EXTORTION

The investigation in this matter should be brought to a logical conclusion promptly and reports forwarded to the Bureau in order that they may be disseminated to the Office of Special Investigations at Washington, D. C.

2-Kansas City (9-1100)

EHH:nck

RECORDED - 22

EX - 13

9-22432-1
SEP 9 1952
119

9-22432-8

COMM - FBI

SEP - 8 1952

MAILED 25

SEP 8 1952

U S DEPT OF JUSTICE

FBI

RECEIVED - CIVIL ROOM

PH

EVH

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **OMAHA**

REPORT MADE AT OMAHA	DATE WHEN MADE 10-2-52	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6-13, 16; 7-2; 9-5; 10-1-52	REPORT MADE BY THOMAS W. CARROLL /kdh
TITLE UNKNOWN SUBJECT GENERAL CURTIS LE MAY - VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE EXTORTION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: On 6-13-52 Gen. CURTIS LE MAY, CG, SAC, Offutt AFB, Omaha, Nebraska, received anonymous letter which instructed victim "to make up for the killings and people you've helped to murder -- else I'll take your life very quickly from you." This letter was mailed at Kansas City, Missouri. The envelope bore the return address of "City National Bank and Trust Company, Kansas City 10, Missouri." Results of FBI Laboratory examination set forth. Subject's identity not known to date. AUSA Omaha believes subject probably mentally unbalanced. AUSA Omaha does not desire to prosecute but states the case should be presented to USA, KC, where letter was set in motion inasmuch as subject, as a matter of right, could have trial in latter district.

- P -

DETAILS: AT OMAHA, NEBRASKA

On June 13, 1952, Lt. Col. JOHN C. MARTIN, OSI, Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, advised SAC J. L. DALTON that instant extortion letter had been received.

SA [redacted] and the writer personally contacted Lt. Col. MARTIN, who stated that there had been no additional developments in this matter since the letter was received.

*100
150
1/4/52
1/4/52
1/4/52*

COPIES OF THIS REPORT		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
3 Bureau (9-22432) 1 USA Omaha 3 Kansas City (1 USA KC) (9-1100) 1 OSI, Offutt AFB, Omaha 2 Omaha (9-533)	1 Phoenix (info) 14	19-22432-7 OCT 6 1952 9-22432-7	INDEXED-39 RECORDED-39 EX-121

b6
b7C

OM 9-533

Lt. Col. P. K. CARLETON, Room A-203, Command Building, Offutt Air Force Base, was contacted inasmuch as he is the personal aide to General LE MAY.

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b7c

[redacted] for General LE MAY, was also contacted.

Col. CARLETON furnished the original extortion letter and envelope and these were subsequently transmitted to the FBI Laboratory.

By letter dated June 23, the FBI Laboratory advised that this extortion letter was compared with the material in the anonymous letter file without effecting an identification. In the examination of the paper no water mark or any other information was found which would assist in tracing the paper to its source.

The envelope was addressed to General CURTIS LE MAY, c/o Pentagon, Washington 25, D. C. It was sent Air Mail and was postmarked at Kansas City, Missouri at 6:30 PM on June 9, 1952. It also carried a postmark cancellation of June 9, 1952 at 4:30 PM from Kansas City, Missouri. In the latter cancellation is the number "9". The envelope bore the following printing on its face, "Return in five days to City National Bank and Trust Company, Kansas City 10, Missouri." The only information on the back of the envelope is an incoming block stamp of June 10, 1952 by the Secretary of Air Staff Correspondence, Control Branch, and the postmark of Washington, D. C. at 9:30 PM on June 11, 1952. The front of the envelope reflects that it was forwarded from the Pentagon to the Headquarters of the Strategic Air Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, Nebraska.

The extortion letter is on plain yellow paper and consists of two separate pages. The extortion letter is as follows:

"Dear Sir; -

"Ordinarily I'm a kindly likeable guy. - I don't get mad or anything else.

"Now - I'll tell you: During your service during World War II you and those stupid Washington jackasses (ordinarily I'm still a likeable guy.) bombed Nagasaki and Hiro.

OM 9-533

"Now - It's usually not in me to chew a fellow out - but I know from experience that if one tries to fight for long he will go fightingly insane. And I'm not kidding - Hate can burn a man up.

"There is a way I can cause a man to die - That's by pulling the inside of his hair root out. He becomes like a tree then because his hair rots and his limbs get rotted - in short because he has sinned he dies - as in the case of Roosevelt, Stimson, Arnold and others. The Commandment is 'Thy Shall Not Kill' when it comes to 'Prosecuting' (attaching is your word) I'll do the things necessary. I prefer that man shall live and if possible freely.

"To this end I give him dreams at night - which are all that keep a man sane. It would be best that you make up for the killings and people you've helped to murder - else I'll take your life very quickly from you.

"Do you understand?"

The reverse side of page 2 bears some undecipherable markings.

The above letter and envelope are written by hand in ink.

General CURTIS LE MAY, Strategic Air Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, advised that he had received various crank letters in the past but that none of the previous letters contained a threat on his life. The only possible suspect that General LE MAY could suggest was an individual who telephoned him on February 27, 1951, and impersonated Lt. General GEORGE A. PAINTER. At that time General LE MAY was in Spokane, Washington, and the caller was in Topeka, Kansas. A subsequent check with OSI, Omaha, reflected that the caller in that incident was RUSSELL K. BROOKS, 1011 W. First Street, Topeka, Kansas. In 1951 he was described as being 37 years of age and was an ex-serviceman. In 1951 BROOKS admitted telephoning General LE MAY and also admitted unsuccessfully attempting to reach the General on a previous occasion.

The above information was furnished to Kansas City for appropriate handling.

On June 19 Kansas City advised that Assistant U. S. Attorney Kansas City, Missouri, declined prosecution in this.

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b7C

OM 9-533

case inasmuch as he was of the opinion that prosecution, if any, should be held in the District of Nebraska as probable and potential witnesses reside in Nebraska. [] was of the opinion that this extortion letter was written by a person who is mentally ill, and although the letter contains a threat of death the stated method of causing the death would be impossible.

On the same date Kansas City advised Phoenix that RUSSELL K. BROOKS, a possible suspect, was reported to be residing at 4319 E. Wilshire in Phoenix, Arizona.

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The facts of this case were discussed with Assistant U. S. Attorney [] Omaha, who stated that in his opinion this extortion letter constituted a violation of 18 USC 876. He was apprised of the opinion rendered by the Assistant U. S. Attorney at Kansas City, Missouri. [] believed that the individual who wrote the extortion letter probably was mentally unbalanced. He advised, however, that unless there are additional letters, he does not desire to authorize prosecution in this matter, particularly in view of 18 USC 3239, which provides that the defendant in an extortion case may, upon motion, as a matter of right have the case tried in the district where the communication was set in motion. In view of the latter section, [] was of the opinion that the authorization, if any, should come from the district where the communication was mailed. He suggested that his opinion be brought to the attention of the Assistant U. S. Attorney in Kansas City, Missouri.

On July 24, Kansas City advised that investigation failed to disclose logical suspects in connection with this case. The opinion of [] was brought to the attention of Assistant U. S. Attorney [] in Kansas City, Missouri, who concurred in the statement that the defendant in this case could, as a matter of right, have his case tried in the district where the communication was set in motion. [] further advised that he was still definitely of the opinion that the individual who wrote the extortion letter was mentally unbalanced. He further advised that unless there are additional letters he does not desire to authorize prosecution in this matter.

Lt. Col. JOHN C. MARTIN, OSI, Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, recently advised that to his knowledge there have been no new developments in this case.

OM 9-533

The victim in this case is described as follows:

Born	11-15-06
Height	5'10 1/2"
Weight	170
Hair	black, graying
Eyes	hazel

- P -

OM 9-533

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Copy of this report is being furnished Phoenix for information inasmuch as that office may be requested to conduct additional investigation in this case.

LEAD

KANSAS CITY DIVISION

At Kansas City, Missouri: Will report results of investigation conducted by that office in an effort to identify subject.

REFERENCE: Omaha ltr to Bureau 6-13-52

9-22432-9

Best available copy

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

This case originated at

OMAHA

Report made at Date when Period for which Report made by
made made cbc

KANSAS CITY 10-10-52 6-17, 18, 19, 30; 7- MARVIN L. SHAY
10, 11, 16, 18; 8-15,
29; 9-6, 16, 30-52

TITLE

CHARACTER OF CASE

UNKNOWN SUBJECT
GENERAL CURTIS LE MAY-Victim

EXTORTION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

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Officials of City National Bank & Trust Company, KCMO, advised that envelope containing extortion letter is identical to size 6 3/4 envelope used as one of official envelopes at bank. Instant size, however, not used frequently by bank. Investigation fails to disclose employees of instant bank wrote extortion letter. Suspect RUSSELL E. BROOKS moved from Topeka, Kansas, to Phoenix, Arizona, latter part of 1951. AUSA [redacted] KCMO, declines prosecution in instant case unless further letters are directed to GENERAL LE MAY. AUSA of opinion letter was written by some mentally ill individual.

R.U.C.

9-22432-10

Approved and

Special Agent
in Charge

Do not write in these spaces

33 JUL 13 1965

COPY IN FILE

19-22432-10

RECORDED - 5

INDEXED - 5

26 OCT 14 1952

Copies of this report

3-BUREAU (9-22432)

1-USA, KCMO

4-Omaha (9-533) (Encl.)

(1 USA, Omaha)

(1 OSI, Offutt AFB, Omaha)

2-Phoenix (9-162)

60

KC 9-1100

DETAILS:

AT KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

A photostatic copy of the extortion letter and envelope in instant case were exhibited by the writer to [redacted] City National Bank & Trust Company, Kansas City, Missouri.

[redacted] advised that the envelope is identical to one size of official envelopes which are used by the bank. He also stated, however, that the envelope which contained the extortion letter is known in the bank's supply records as "size 6 3/4 in."

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[redacted] said that the bank's supply office purchases only two sizes of envelopes, the instant 6 3/4 size and a size 10. He indicated also that the size 10 envelope is nearly always used in said bank's correspondence, and the size 6 3/4 is seldom, if ever, used in bank correspondence.

[redacted] related further that all officials and employees of the bank are supplied daily with envelopes and stationery and that the officials are supplied with envelopes of both sizes. He said that it is possible for anyone walking through the bank lobby to request an envelope from any of the many bank officials who are seated at desks in an area surrounding the lobby. He stated that it is a daily occurrence for customers of the bank and persons in the lobby to request envelopes and/or sheets of paper from any of the bank employees in the immediate vicinity.

[redacted] reported that the bank also uses yellow onion skin paper for the second sheet, or carbon copies, in all bank correspondence, and, therefore, it is quite possible that the writer of the letter also borrowed the paper on which the extortion letter was written from the bank.

[redacted] indicated also that the yellow onion skin paper used by the bank contains no watermark, or identification mark, whatsoever, to indicate whether or not it is bank property.

[redacted] examined the [redacted] 9-22482-10 and said that the writing or script in which the letter is written is not at all familiar to him. He stated that he is reasonably certain that no one employed by the bank wrote the extortion

MS 6-1100

letter. [redacted] advised further that he is very familiar with the handwriting of the majority of the persons employed in the bank and in the large parking garage adjacent to the bank, and he was unable to recognize the writing on the extortion letter as being comparable to that of any employee of the bank.

[redacted] and the writer made a check of the personnel files of bank employees without locating a logical suspect in instant case.

[redacted], continuing, stated that the bank employs a large number of parking attendants in the Bank Garage adjacent to the bank and also in connection with the Motor Bank, whose duties are to direct traffic and assist in the parking of cars. Many of these employees are part-time workers. A considerable number of Air Force personnel are employed in a part-time basis in the Bank Garage. He said that for the past several months, at least nine Airmen have been employed as parking attendants in the Bank Garage and at the Motor Bank.

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[redacted] City National Bank and Company Garage, and [redacted] advised that all of the Airmen employed by them are attached to a local Air Force Office; that they all reside in the Robert E. Lee Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri, and both men advised all of the Airmen are considered by them to be high type, intelligent young men, who have advised that they are making the Air Force their career. Both men stated that they felt that they could personally vouch for each of the Airmen employed in the Bank Garage.

The employment records of the City National Bank and Trust Company failed to disclose that anyone of Japanese or Hawaiian extraction had been employed in the bank, or garage, for the past several months.

[redacted] advised also that he brought up the matter concerning the use of the official bank envelope in connection with the extortion letter at a meeting of bank officials and also at a meeting of the bank employees. He stated no one in either the group of bank officials or the group of regular bank employees was able to recall furnishing

KC 9-1100

an envelope and paper to anyone under peculiar circumstances. However, [redacted] admitted to [redacted] that they regularly furnished bank envelopes and paper to persons not employed by the bank on almost a daily basis.

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[redacted] said he keeps a small supply of official bank envelopes in both sizes and paper, both yellow and original white sheets, in his office in the Bank Garage at all times. He stated further that the 6 3/4 size small envelopes are most always available to patrons of the bank and almost anyone at the Motor Bank.

Further investigation and contacts with [redacted] and [redacted] at the City National Bank failed to disclose logical suspects in instant case.

[redacted] Kansas City, Missouri, advised that the U. S. Post Office canceling machine No. 9 has been used for a considerable length of time in the large General Post Office, which is regarded as the "Main Post Office" for the Kansas City area. He indicated that instant envelope containing the extortion letter could have been mailed at any of the many sub-post office stations and would still be canceled at the Main or General Post Office. He said it would, therefore, be impossible to determine the identity or location of the sub-post office station or mail box where the letter was mailed.

On June 18, 1952, the Omaha Office advised that GENERAL CURTIS LE MAY, Strategic Air Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, Nebraska, the victim in instant case, has been interviewed. He stated he had received various "crank" letters in the past, but that none of the previous letters had contained a threat on his life.

The only suspect that General LE MAY could suggest was an individual who telephoned him on February 27, 1951, and impersonated LT. GENERAL GEORGE A. PAINTER. At that time, General LE MAY was in Spokane, Washington, and the caller was in Topeka, Kansas.

A check of the files of the OSI at Omaha reflected that the caller in the 1951 instance was RUSSELL E. BROOKS, 1011 West First Street, Topeka, Kansas. BROOKS was described

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as a 27-year old ex-Service man. On the occasion of the 1951 incident, BROOKS admitted telephoning General LE HAI and also admitted unsuccessfully attempting to reach the General on a previous occasion to the one on February 27, 1951.

Investigation at Topeka, Kansas, disclosed that Suspect RUSSELL L. BROOKS had moved from Topeka, Kansas, during the latter part of 1951; now reported to be presently residing at 4319 East Wilshire, Phoenix, Arizona. His mother, who is also reported to be with BROOKS, is known as MRS. FRANCIS BROOKS.

By teletype dated 6-19-52, the above information was furnished to the Phoenix Office.

On June 20, 1952, the Phoenix Office advised that Suspect RUSSELL K. BROOKS had moved from the East Wilshire address in January 1952. His immediate whereabouts was not known.

On June 21, 1952, the Phoenix Office advised that Suspect RUSSELL K. BROOKS had filed a change of address in Phoenix, Arizona, on February 20, 1952, listing his address as General Delivery, Denver, Colorado.

On June 23, 1952, the Phoenix Office advised that Suspect RUSSELL K. BROOKS had mailed a credit payment to Sears-Roebuck Company in Phoenix, Arizona, on April 9, 1952, from 425 North Main, El Comodoro Hotel, San Antonio, Texas.

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On June 19, 1952, the facts of instant case were discussed by the writer with [redacted] Assistant U. S. Attorney, Kansas City, Missouri. At that time, [redacted] advised that he was declining prosecution in instant case because he is of the opinion that prosecution, if any, should be held in the District of Nebraska, as possible and potential witnesses in connection with instant case reside in that District. [redacted] also stated that he is of the opinion that the extortion letter was written by a person who is mentally ill. He advised that although the letter contains a threat of death, the state of mind of the person causing the death would be impossible.

9-22432-10

On July 3, 1952, the Omaha Office advised that Assistant U. S. Attorney [redacted] Omaha, advised that in his opinion instant extortion letter constitutes a violation

KC 9-1100

of 18 USC 876. [redacted] was apprised of the entire opinion rendered by [redacted] Assistant U. S. Attorney, Kansas City, Missouri. [redacted] believed that the individual who wrote the extortion letter probably was mentally unbalanced. He advised, however, that unless there are additional letters, he does not desire to authorize prosecution in instant case, particularly in view of Title 18, USC, Section 3239, which provides that the defendant in an extortion case, may, upon motion, as a matter of right, have the case tried in the district where the communication was set in motion.

In view of the latter Section, [redacted] was of the opinion that the authorization, if any, should come from the district where the communication was set in motion. He, therefore, suggested that his opinion be brought to the attention of the Assistant U. S. Attorney in Kansas City, Missouri, inasmuch as any trial in this case would probably be held in Kansas City, Missouri.

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Accordingly, the writer again discussed the facts of instant case with Assistant U. S. Attorney [redacted] on 7-14-52. At this time, [redacted] advised that he concurred with the opinion of Assistant U. S. Attorney [redacted] of Omaha in that the defendant in an extortion case may, upon motion, as a matter of right, have his case tried in the district where the communication was set in motion.

[redacted] further advised that he is still definitely of the opinion that the individual who wrote the extortion letter to General LE MAY is mentally unbalanced. He further advised that unless there are additional letters directed to General LE MAY he does not desire to authorize prosecution in this matter.

A check of the records of the KCMO PD, the KCK PD, and the Credit Bureau for the Greater Kansas City Area, failed to disclose the present whereabouts, or any information concerning suspect RUSSELL K. BROOKS.

The following information and description concerning Suspect RUSSELL K. BROOKS were obtained when he was interviewed at Topeka, Kansas, on February 28, 1951:

KC 9-1100

NAME	RUSSELL K. BROOKS
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	37(1951)
Born	Feb. 20, 1914 at Topeka, Ks.
Height	6 ft. 3 1/4 in.
Weight	185 pounds
Eyes	Gray
Hair	Brown (partially bald on top and slightly gray at temples)
Build	Medium
Complexion	Fair
marks	Large mole on left side of bridge of nose
Marital status	Divorced
Relatives	

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Mother: MRS. FRANKS BROOKS,
1011 W. 1st St., Topeka,
Kansas

Father: Deceased

Brother: WM. DANIEL BROOKS, age
42; lives with mother

Military Service ASN 37016622

Criminal record: Admits total of 25 days in stockade while in U.S. Army for minor infraction Military rules.

ENCLOSURE: TO OMAHA DIVISION: 1 copy of the report of
SA [redacted] dated
6-28-52 at Phoenix, Arizona.

R.U.C.

9-22432-10

KC 9-1100

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Copies

One copy of the report of SA [redacted] Phoenix, Arizona, dated 6-28-52 is being furnished the Omaha Office for information and assistance, inasmuch as the Omaha Office is Office of Origin in instant case.

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LEADS

THE PHOENIX DIVISION

AT PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Will contact the Credit Manager of the Sears-Roebuck Store in Phoenix to determine whether suspect RUSSELL K. BROOKS has submitted recent payments to this store, in effort to obtain BROOKS' present address, so that he may be interviewed to determine his whereabouts on June 9, 1952, and also to obtain handwriting specimens from him.

References

Bureau File No. 9-22432.

Report of SA [redacted] Phoenix, Arizona, dated 6-28-52.

Report of SA THOMAS W. CARROLL, Omaha, Nebraska, dated 10-2-52.

9-22432-10

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

No. 1
 CASE ORIGINATED AT **OMAHA**

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT PHOENIX	DATE WHEN MADE 10/22/52	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/16/52	REPORT MADE BY [Redacted] CM
TITLE UNKNOWN SUBJECT GENERAL CURTIS LE MAY - VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE EXTORTION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Suspect **RUSSELL K. BROOKS** has not made any payments to Sears-Roebuck since **4/9/52**. Suspect's wife [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

RUC

DETAILS

AT PHOENIX, ARIZONA

[Redacted] Sears-Roebuck, 151 East Adams, advised that the suspect has made no additional payments on his account since **4/9/52**.

T-1 advised that the suspect's wife [Redacted]

[Redacted]

RUC

9-22432-11

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPY IN FILE COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3-Bureau (9-22432) 3-Omaha (9-533) 1-USA, Omaha 2-Phoenix (9-162338) JUL 13 1953	9-22432-11 RECORDED INDEXED

PI 9-162

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

T-1 is [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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LEADS

OMAHA OFFICE

AT OMAHA, NEBRASKA

Will advise Phoenix when case is closed or when suspect's wife is located so that the stop against the suspect's wife's checking account can be removed.

REFERENCE

Report of SA MARVIN L. SHAY dated 10/10/52 at Kansas City.

9-22432-11

CORRECTION

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **OMAHA**

REPORT MADE AT OMAHA, NEBRASKA	DATE WHEN MADE 11-10-52	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11-7-52	REPORT MADE BY THOMAS W. CARROLL jmg
TITLE UNKNOWN SUBJECT GENERAL CURTIS LE MAY - VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE EXTORTION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Investigation completed.

- C -

DETAILS:

At Omaha, Nebraska

A review of instant file reflects that the investigation in this case has been completed and that all logical leads have been covered.

- C -

*cc OSI
By [unclear]
11/10/52
DONE 11/15/52
[unclear]*

9-22432-12

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: 	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">COPY IN FILE</p> <p>3 - Bureau (9-22432) COPIES DE... 1 - USA, Omaha 338 JUL 13 1955 1 - OSI, Offutt AFB, Omaha 1 - Phoenix (9-162) (Info) 2 - Omaha (9-533)</p>		<p style="font-size: 1.5em;">9-22432-12</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em;">NOV 13 1952</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold;">RECORDED - 56</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.5em;">EX-102</p>

PROPERTY OF FBI—THIS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE LOANED TO YOUR AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED: **199**

66 NOV 1952

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Copy of this report is being furnished to Phoenix for information in order that stops against the suspect's wife's checking account can be removed.

REFERENCE: Report of SA [redacted] dated October 22, 1952 at Phoenix.
Report of SA THOMAS W. CARROLL dated October 2, 1952 at Omaha.

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9-22432-12